



Carrie J. Hightman
President, Ameritech Illinois

Ameritech Illinois
225 West Randolph Street
Floor 27B
Chicago, IL 60606

January 21, 2002

312.727.2621 Phone
312.558.1210 Fax
312.320.2621 Cellular

Chairman Mathias
Commissioner Kretschmer
Commissioner Harvill
Commissioner Hurley
Commissioner Squires
Illinois Commerce Commission
160 N. LaSalle, C-800
Chicago, IL 60601

ILLINOIS COMMERCE
COMMISSION
JAN 23 12 31 PM '02
OFFICE OF
CHAIRMAN AND
COMMISSIONERS

Dear Chairman and Commissioners:

The purpose of this letter is to set forth the correct facts regarding Ameritech Illinois' long distance efforts, in light of the January 18th Sun Times article entitled "SBC backs off long-distance phone strategy until 2003". This article incorrectly reflects my discussion with the reporter and, therefore, is misleading.

Lest there be any doubt, Ameritech Illinois has not changed its position in any way regarding its desire to obtain long distance relief in Illinois as soon as possible. Our commitment is unchanged and we remain dedicated to completing the 271 activities in Illinois and obtaining the Commission's endorsement this year. Indeed, the current schedule in Docket 01-0662 calls for briefing to be completed in July and it is currently expected that the OSS test will be completed in June. Thus, we currently expect to complete the Illinois process in the 3rd quarter of this year. We will do everything we can to ensure that this schedule does not slip.

The Sun Times article suggests that we will not file with the FCC until 2003. That is not our intent. We will obviously file with the FCC as soon as we receive the Commission's endorsement. The comments of our parent company, reflected in the article, related to when SBC expects to see a revenue lift related to long distance relief. This lift could not take place until we receive FCC approval, which will likely be in 2003.

I hope this clarifies Ameritech Illinois' position regarding the process for obtaining long distance relief.

Very truly yours,

Carrie J. Hightman

cc: Scott Wiseman, Executive Director
Myra Karegianes
Docket 01-0662 Service List